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**APR 20 2007**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Koenraad PRINGIERS :  
Application No. 10/615,070 :  
Filed: July 8, 2003 :  
Attorney Docket No. 610002-2000 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), April 13, 2007, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed September 8, 2004, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on December 9, 2004.

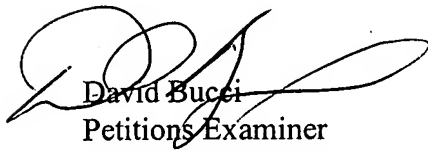
The above-identified application is being revived solely for purposes of continuity. As continuity has been established by this decision reviving the above-identified application, the above-identified application is again abandoned in favor of continuing application No. 11/074,433, filed March 8, 2005.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant of 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See *In re Application of S.*, 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Since the \$1020 extension of time fee submitted with the petition on September 22, 2005

was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, petitioner may request a refund of this fee by writing to the following address: Mail Stop 16, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. A copy of this decision should accompany petitioner's request.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to David A. Bucci at (571) 272-7099.



David Bucci  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions